

Case 3120a

LIOCHELIDAE, fam. nov. (Scorpiones): proposed introduction as a substitute name for ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879, as an alternative to the suggested emendment of ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957 (Insecta, Odonata) to ISCHNURAINAE in order to remove homonymy

Victor Fet

*Department of Biological Sciences, Marshall University,
West Virginia 25755, U.S.A. (e-mail: fet@marshall.edu)*

Günter Bechly

*Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Rosenstein 1, D-70191 Stuttgart,
Germany (e-mail: bechly.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de)*

Abstract. The purpose of this application is to establish the new scorpion family name LIOCHELIDAE Fet & Bechly, 2001 (1879) as a substitute name for ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879, which is a homonym of the widely used damselfly (Odonata) name ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957. In a previous application (BZN 57: 26–28) the authors proposed emending the latter name to ISCHNURAINAE, but the introduction of LIOCHELIDAE avoids this undesirable change. The type genus of the LIOCHELIDAE is *Liocheles* Sundevall, 1833, which is in wide use as the valid senior synonym of the long abandoned name *Ischnurus* C.L. Koch, 1837 (the type genus of ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879).

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Scorpiones; Odonata; ISCHNURIDAE; LIOCHELIDAE; COENAGRIONIDAE; ISCHNURINAE; *Liocheles*; *Ischnura*; scorpions; damselflies.

1. As mentioned in our original application (Case 3120; BZN 57: 26–28), the scorpion family name ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 (type genus *Ischnurus* C.L. Koch, 1837) is widely used, and so also is the homonymous damselfly subfamily name ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957 (based on *Ischnura* Charpentier, 1840).

2. To remove the homonymy we proposed emending the damselfly subfamily name to ISCHNURAINAE. However, as noted in para. 2 of our original application, the scorpion name *Ischnurus* was synonymized with *Hormurus* Thorell, 1876 by Karsch (1880), and in turn *Hormurus* was synonymised with *Liocheles* Sundevall, 1833 by Pocock (1902). *Ischnurus* has not been used for the genus for almost a century. In recent times *Liocheles* has been in universal use, but authors have continued to include *Liocheles* and other genera in a family which they call ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879, mostly unaware that *Ischnurus* has long disappeared from use.

3. There is much to be said for basing a family-group name on the valid name of an included genus, and adoption of LIOCHELIDAE would not only achieve this but, more importantly, would obviate any reason for changing the very widely used damselfly name ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957 on grounds of homonymy.

4. Accordingly we here establish the new family name LIOCHELIDAE. The type genus is *Liocheles* Sundevall, 1833; as we mentioned in para. 2 of our original application the type species of *Liocheles* is *Scorpio australasiae* Fabricius, 1775 by monotypy. In compliance with Article 13.1.2 of the Code we state that the characters of the LIOCHELIDAE are those given in the diagnosis of ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 by Prendini (2000, pp. 33–34).

5. The introduction of LIOCHELIDAE as a substitute name for ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 requires a Commission ruling because the latter name is not invalidated by being based on a junior generic synonym (Article 40.1 of the Code); furthermore Simon's name is the senior homonym of the damselfly ISCHNURINAE. By analogy with Article 40.2.1 we propose that LIOCHELIDAE should take the priority of Simon's replaced name, as would happen automatically had the replacement been made before 1961 and the new name been in use; this would make it the senior subjective synonym not only of ISCHNURIDAE Simon but also of any later name (such as HORMURINI Laurie, 1896, which was based on the junior synonym *Hormurus* and only used four times, and not at all since 1925).

6. For the reasons given above we withdraw our formal proposals (1), (4) and (5) relating to family-group names published in BZN 57: 27, para. 5, and substitute those below. In addition to these the proposed Official List entry for *Liocheles* should record that it is the type genus of LIOCHELIDAE Fet & Bechly, 2001 (1879).

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary power:

- (a) to rule that the name LIOCHELIDAE Fet & Bechly, 2001 is to take the priority of, and be treated as senior to, the name ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879;
- (b) to rule that ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957 (Odonata) is not to be treated as invalid by reason of being a junior homonym of ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 (Scorpiones);

(2) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:

- (a) ISCHNURINAE Fraser, 1957 (type genus *Ischnura* Charpentier, 1840; Odonata), with the endorsement that it is not to be treated as invalid by reason of being a junior homonym of ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 (Scorpiones);
- (b) LIOCHELIDAE Fet & Bechly, 2001 (1879) (type genus *Liocheles* Sundevall, 1833; Scorpiones), with the endorsement that it is to take the priority of, and be treated as senior to, the name ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879;

(3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the name ISCHNURIDAE Simon, 1879 (type genus *Ischnurus* C.L. Koch, 1837; Scorpiones), with the endorsement that it is to be treated as junior to LIOCHELIDAE Fet & Bechly, 2001 (1879) (type genus *Liocheles* Sundevall, 1833).

Additional reference

(for other references see BZN 57: 27–28)

Prendini, L. 2000. Phylogeny and classification of the superfamily Scorpionoidea Latreille, 1802 (Chelicerata, Scorpiones): an exemplar approach. *Cladistics*, **16**: 1–78.

Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., c/o The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).